

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LOUREN 00502 241335Z

44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SY-04 SCCT-02 SAM-01 IO-14

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 CU-04 A-01

OPR-02 DRC-01 /147 W

----- 003300

R 241215Z JUN 74

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2670

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 0502

PRETORIA FOR RSO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, MZ

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT AGAINST DEMOCRAT; OTHER
PROTESTS

1. ACCORDING LOCAL VRESS AND RADIO REPORTS, AN ATTEMPT
WAS MADE LATE EVENING JUNE 23 ASSASSINATE DR. ANTONIO CAMILO
PEREIRA LEITE, LOCAL ATTORNEY AND LEADING SPOKESMAN FOR
MOZAMBIQUE DEMOCRATS. AN EXPLOSIVE DEVICE, IDENTIFIED AS
PORTUGUESE-MADE HAND GRENADE, WAS WIRED TO IGNITION OF LEITE'S
CAR WHILE HE VISITING FRIENDS, AND EXPLODED WHEN HE STARTED
CAR CAUSING SOME DAMAGE TO CAR BUT NOT INJURING LEITE.

2. MEANWHILE, ON AFTERNOON OF JUNE 23, TWO REPORTERS FROM
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NOTICIAS COVERING TRANSFER OF INCARCERATED DGS PERSONNEL

FROM MACHAVA POLITICAL PRISON TO LOURENCO MARQUES INDUSTRIAL PENITENTIARY (APPARENTLY EXCHANGE OF MOST OF PRISONERS BETWEEN TWO INSTITUTIONS IS BEING MADE), WERE ATTACKED AND BEATEN BY FAMILY MEMBERS OF DGS PRISONERS, AND HAD TO BE RESCUED BY POLICE. NOTICIAS AND MOZAMBIQUE DEMOCRATS HAVE DULY PROTESTED.

3. FINALLY, A HOSTILE GROUP (APPARENTLY INCLUDING SOME ARMED SOLDIERS) ATTEMPTED INTERFERE WITH MEETING OF STUDENTS AND MOZAMBIQUE DEMOCRAT LEADERS (INCLUDING DR. LEITE) EVENING JUNE 22, BY HECKLING, PULLING DOWN POSTERS, AND DELAYING MEETING'S START.

4. COMMENT: THESE ARE FIRST INDICATIONS TO DATE OF VIOLENT REACTIONS TO DOMINANT MOZAMBIQUE DEMOCRATS BY EUROPEANS WHO FEEL BETRAYED AND STIFLED BY A GROUP OF EUROPEAN LAWYERS AND JOURNALISTS WHICH PREACHES UNCONDITIONAL PRO-FRELIMO LINE AND THROUGH ITS DOMINATION OF PRESS SEEKS TO DISCREDIT AND SILENCE ALL OTHER GROUPS AND IDEAS.

REED

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